



Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2011

File No. 576

Senate Bill No. 1202

Senate, April 18, 2011

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. GERRATANA of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Public
2 Health, in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education, the
3 Labor Department, the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, The
4 University of Connecticut, The University of Connecticut School of
5 Medicine, The University of Connecticut School of Dentistry, the
6 Connecticut State University System and the regional community-
7 technical college system, shall develop an initiative to address the
8 state's health care workforce shortage. Such initiative shall seek to
9 increase the number of health care workers in the state through the
10 offering of expanded and enhanced educational programs at public
11 institutions of higher education. The initiative shall include, but not be
12 limited to, the following: (1) Expansion of existing health care related
13 academic programs to promote increased enrollment and retention of
14 students in such programs; (2) development of alternative academic
15 programs that are designed to assimilate displaced workers and other

16 individuals considering a career change into the health care workforce;
 17 (3) recruitment and retention of underserved populations into the
 18 health care workforce; (4) the establishment of collaborative
 19 relationships between health care professions that will assist in
 20 improving access to health care; (5) development of distance learning
 21 initiatives; (6) mechanisms for ensuring that a health care professional
 22 is practicing at such professional's highest level of competency; (7)
 23 streamlined processes within the Department of Public Health which
 24 ensure that out-of-state professionals with licensing credentials that
 25 are substantially similar to those required by the Department of Public
 26 Health are able to expeditiously obtain licensure in this state in order
 27 to alleviate workforce shortage areas; and (8) development of on-the-
 28 job training initiatives that are designed to provide valuable work
 29 experience to those receiving the training and assist in alleviating
 30 health care workforce shortages, particularly in areas of the state with
 31 underserved populations.

32 (b) Not later than January 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Public
 33 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
 34 of the general statutes, on the initiative to the joint standing
 35 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 36 relating to higher education and employment advancement, public
 37 health and labor and public employees.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PH *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 12 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	up to 50,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a potential General Fund cost of up to 50,000 in FY 12 to the extent that the Department of Public (DPH) requires a consultant to research and report to the health care workforce initiative on any areas of knowledge not supplied by the agencies and academic institutions that will be part of the initiative. This initiative is to report to various committees of the General Assembly no later than 1/1/13 and, as such, it is anticipated that any consultant cost will be incurred in FY 12 only.

The Out Years: None

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1202

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE
WORKFORCE.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 28 Nay 0 (04/01/2011)